

Wednesday, August 18, 2010

Duxbury Clipper

National Register of Historic Places ceremony for Tarkiln

The public is invited to celebrate the official unveiling of the National Register of Historic Places plaque on the Tarkiln Twin Schoolhouses, 245 Summer St., Wednesday, Aug. 18 at 1 p.m. at Tarkiln. Please join members of the Tarkiln Committee, the Friends of Tarkiln and the Duxbury Historical Commission as we mark this important day and honor this historically important building.

The National Register is the official federal list of buildings, structures, and sites that are significant in American history and to the history of their communities.

The Tarkiln Twin Schoolhouses was formally elected to the National Register by the National Park Service in late 2009. The road to get a listing on the National Register is a lengthy one. The Duxbury



Historical Commission began the process several years ago, first applying to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. After considering the qualifications that make Tarkiln unique in Duxbury's and the nation's history, the MHC deemed the building eligible and made its recommendation to the National Park Service. Tarkiln consists of two one-room schoolhouses built in 1871 and 1908 respectively.

The two halls were joined in 1926 via a middle building containing bathrooms and a basement. Tarkiln was used as a school until 1949 when it became a youth center and finally a community center.

Currently, Tarkiln is undergoing a restoration project that is expected to be completed in the early fall when it will re-open to all Duxbury residents as a community center. The Recreation Department is handling inquiries and scheduling the renting of the building.

The National Register plaque celebration will take place at the same time as DUXFARM's weekly Farmer's and Artisan's Market. Refreshments will be served.